FOREIGN DEPARTMENT

IN CHARGE OF
LAVINIA L. DOCK

THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS IN LONDON

THE program of the Congress promises to have some remarkably valuable papers on broadly altruistic lines, such as the scope of the nurses' obligations and opportunities as patriotic citizens and members of civic communities. The dates—we will repeat them each month for the convenience of our readers—will be from the 19th to the 23d of July. No credentials will be needed by nurses visiting the Congress, save only for the official delegates on the day of the business meeting; this meeting, too, will be freely opened to nurses, and will consist partly of discussions on topics proposed by the associations of different countries. We shall thus see how much alike all our problems are. The most notable lion at the Congress will be, without a doubt, Mr. Haldane, the Secretary of State for War, who has promised to give the opening address in the session on "The Nurse as Patriot." Miss Elston will speak on "Military Nursing in France" at this session. As we know, trained nurses have just been admitted into army hospitals there.

Mlle. Luigi, whose training school at Béziers is the first child of the Bordeaux schools, will speak on "Nursing Education."

OUR FOREIGN FRIENDS

MISS TURTON, who is working with Miss Baxter in Naples in the big hospital full of victims of the earthquake, writes to the *British Journal of Nursing:* "This month has brought the question of nursing imperatively before the public. Will what is good remain of the chaotic mass of *infermiera* who have rendered assistance in our hospitals, institutions, or wherever the wounded have been received? Will a better organized preparation of professional and of Red Cross nurses result? Or will the wave of enthusiasm sink into a greater indifference by reaction? Time will show. Meanwhile we will continue to work on patiently, thankful that the Croce Azzurra has been able to present at least a small body of disciplined and well-taught Italian nurses, as type of what is needed in all our hospitals."

MISS ELSTON writes that July is not the best time for French nurses to go to the Congress, as they have their examinations in that month; however, she is coming to London with Dr. Hamilton, and we hope Mme. Kriegk and some of the "Bleus" will be there also. Mme. Jacques and some of the pupils of the municipal training school in Paris are coming, and perhaps M. Montreuil. It must be a matter of regret to Paris nurses that this genial director has retired from hospital service; however, as he remains an honorary director, he will not lose his interest in nursing.

MLLE. FAURE, a French graduate from the Presbyterian Hospital in New York, writes that she has been experimenting with hourly nursing in Paris.

WE are glad to see in the foreign journals that the director of the *Assistance Publique* in Paris has given a set of wards for the training of the pupils in the school at 10, Rue Amyot. It is to be hoped that they may acquire a whole hospital.

ENGLISH and Irish nurses are justly outraged at the latest performance of Mr. Burdett, whom we had hoped to have heard the last of. He is sending around a printed paper called a "plebiscite," on which to get signatures against (and for? *No*) registration, and with it goes the most naïve and innocently open bribe—for it is nothing less—of a few dollars for the one sending the most names! Our good worthies in this country who think they know something of the art of bribery had better sit up and take points. Of course all organized nurses in meetings denounced the base scheme, for it is well known that many hospitals in Great Britain have more ways than ours of intimidation of graduates and permanent nurses.

THE Sixth Annual Report of the German Nurses' Association is a masterly document, and gives a wonderful idea of the many activities and very serious responsibilities of the officers of the association. Our space is quite inadequate to a worthy résumé of this report. Briefly, it may be said that the German Nurses' Association is bound to carry on, for its members, some of the duties of an insurance office, much of the work of a state examining board for registration, many of the details of the superintendent of a large training school for nurses, and a vast amount of census-keeping, such as we only see done by governmental bureaus, and not always by them. With this, the association carries on the club and study work with which our associations are more familiar, and goes seriously into civics, being affiliated with women's organiza-

tions for philanthropic and civic work, and it has recently joined the Social Reform Society, which is the German branch of the International Association for Labor Legislation, whose aim is to bring about a humane and intelligent regulation of the hours of work in all lines.

ENGLISH nursing journals give interesting accounts of the newly organized Territorial Army nursing scheme, by which a nursing service is being formed to serve in the general hospitals of the Territorial Force. The Queen is to be the president of the service. It is proposed to form a local committee in each hospital centre which will receive the names of nurses wishing to join the service. Such committees are to be composed of women, including heads of training schools and hospitals. Territorial Hospital No. 1 is to be staffed entirely by men of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, past and present, and the nursing staff will be composed of St. Bartholomew's nurses, under the organization of Miss Stewart, who is one of the organizing matrons. There will be four general hospitals, requiring altogether a staff of 480 nurses.

THE Cuban nurses have formed an association with Senorita Marguerite Nuñez, of Hospital No. 1 at Havana, as president. They have been invited to send members to London to the Congress. Miss Hibbard, with the assistance of some of the American nurses in Cuba, has been requested by the government to organize a district nursing service for tuberculosis work in Havana, Cuba. Nursing affairs in general in Cuba progress steadily under the excellent organization of education there. The registration act in force there since 1902 works well, the three years' course is general; there is a nurse sitting as a member on the Central Board of Hospitals, and another holding the position of general inspector of nurses. The duties of this position are to inspect all schools for nurses, all hospitals, private or public, and all schools in sanatoria, etc., that employ graduate nurses, for, as such nurses all hold diplomas from the state training schools, the state supervises their work, wherever they may be after graduation. We recommend this example to our friends in all states who long to return to the good old days when the word nurse was a synonym for ward-maid or scrub.

MISS CHOKO SUWO, who had been taking various courses of post-graduate work in this country, has returned to Japan. Miss Suwo has promised to contribute the chapter on Japan to the third volume of "A History of Nursing."

THE Swedish nurses are issuing a charming little journal in blue and white, of which the first three numbers have reached us. They are

planning to found a national society, and it is just possible that they may be ready to enter the International in July. This would cause great rejoicing.

A CURIOUS mistake was made in this country about the franchise in Sweden. The Atlantic cable sent word that it had been extended to "all the inhabitants" of that country, and all the dailies and monthlies had editorials, supposing that women were enfranchised. Even the *Outlook* had an editorial. But it seems that Atlantic cable only meant men!

THE first examinations of nurses under the new registration act of Belgium have recently taken place in that country. About 400 candidates presented themselves.

M. MESUREUR has arranged with the authorities of St. Bartholomew's hospital to have certain ones of the pupil nurses in the Saltpêtrière school spend two months in the wards of the English hospital, and four of them are now in their second month there, very happy, and the centre of much interest.

EPITOME OF TRAINING OF NURSES

I

Application, Probation, Acceptation.

II

Recitation, Occupation, Adaptation.

III

Insinuation, Vexation, Repudiation.

IV

Examination, Vacation, Illumination.

V

Preparation, Operation, Restoration.

VI

Rumination, Graduation, Salvation.

OBSERVER.